over to the OC by the end of 2009. An Empowered Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, GNCTD with representatives from all the concerned agencies/authorities to facilitate speedy clearances in respect of the Games related projects. Another Committee has been set up by under the Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development to facilitate clearances pertaining to Delhi Urban Arts Commission (DUAC). Keeping in view the need for developing adequate tourist accommodation in the context of the Commonwealth Games, an inter-Ministerial Task Force has been set up under the Ministry of Tourism (MoT) for monitoring and coordinating further action in this regard by all the agencies concerned. A Committee for expediting the Central Government clearance in respect of Hotels coming up in Uttar Pradesh has also been set under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

To improve the performance of the Indian contingent in Commonwealth Games, 2010, extensive discussions have been held with all the stakeholders and a programme for providing training, foreign exposure, scientific backup, equipment etc. with an estimated cost of Rs.661.00 crore has been drawn up for the elite sportspersons, who will represent India in the Commonwealth Games, 2010.

Government has approved project proposals of Sports Authority of India for an amount of Rs. 1000 crores (+ 10%) for upgradation/creation of sports venue infrastructure; upgradation of Tennis venue by All India Tennis Association at a cost of Rs. 30 crores (+ 15%) and expenditure budget of Organizing Committee on a revenue neutral basis of Rs. 767 crores (+ 15%) for 'Conduct of the Games'. The Expenditure Finance Committee has recommended the proposal of the Delhi Development Authority for Rs. 325.00 crores (+ 25%) for the International Zone etc. in the Games village (which is being developed on Public Private Partnership Mode) and sports infrastructure.

Planning Commission has approved a proposal of the Government of the NCT of Delhi for an amount of Rs. 770.00 crores. Planning Commission has also approved an amount of Rs. 110.00 crores to the Government of Maharashtra for sports infrastructure for Commonwealth Youth Games, 2008 to be held in Pune, which is a sub-event of the main Commonwealth Games 2010.

(b) and (c) The Government of NCT of Delhi has prepared an action plan of Rs. 1352 crore for spending on various heads *viz.* augmentation of facilities related to health, transport, road, horticulture, water, electricity, infrastructure etc. in the context of the Commonwealth Games 2010.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. While Rs. 770.00 crore has, been approved by the Planning Commission, the remaining funds of Rs. 582.00 crore would be met by GNCTD from their own Plan Schemes.

Making sports mandatory in educational institutions

1362. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that we have failed to produce a single Olympic gold medalist in spite of having big human resources;

(b) whether Government are taking any step to make sports mandatory to ail educational institutions; and

(c) if so, by when it would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. India is yet to get a gold medal in any of the individual sport events at the Olympics. Although we have a very large population with around 77 crores coming within the below 35 years age group, hardly 5 crores have access to proper sports facilities. With a view to addressing this huge gap in the availability of sports infrastructure, especially at the grassroots level, the Ministry has received the in-principle approval of the Planning Commission to launch a nation wide programme and entitled the 'Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhyan', which aims to provide all the village and block panchayats with basic sports infrastructure in a phased manner over a period of 10 year. The Ministry has also prepared a draft Comprehensive National Sports Policy, which *inter alia,* lays special emphasis on the integration of sports with formal education at both school and College level. This would help in creating a strong sports culture in the country, which would also help in the promotion of excellence in sports at the national and international, including Olympic level. "Excellence in Sports" can only be built on the foundation of "Sports for All"—a goal set out in the revise Twenty Point Programme launched on Gandhi Jayanti 2006.

National Games in Jharkhand

1363. Ms. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Games would be held in Jharkhand by the end of this year;

(b) whether his Ministry is aware that the required infrastructure is not yet ready for the proposed games; and

(c) in what manner his Ministry would manage to accelerate the progress of the infrastructure required to hold the games?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The dates for holding the National Games in Jharkhand are yet to be finalized by the Indian Olympic Association.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir, the Ministry is aware that the required infrastructure for the Games, which is to be developed by the State Government of Jharkhand, is not yet ready. According to the State Government, around 80% of the construction works of the Mega Sports Complex at Hotwar, Ranchi has been completed. The final date of completion is the 15th December, 2007 and the State Government is trying its best to complete the work in time.